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Abbreviations, Definitions and Symbols

Clyde F. Reed

New Crops Research Branch
 United States Department of Agriculture
 Beltsville, Maryland

The purposes of this listing of abbreviations, definitions and symbols are to identify, to familiarize and to assist in standardizing various terms we use or are expected to understand in various publications. The decisions for abbreviations have been based upon good grammatical practices, with the assistance of Webster's Dictionary, the GPO Style Manual and Jackson's Glossary of Botanic Terms. Taxonomic abbreviations and definitions are based on the Rules or Recommendations set forth in the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (1961). Users will note some discrepancies between this listing and that published in the 1964 edition of the Style Manual for Biological Journals (AIBS), which has been accepted as a standard by several agencies. This list attempts to rectify and extend the abbreviations noted in AIBS Style Manual. Perhaps such a list will be found sufficiently useful to be included in a future edition of the GPO Style Manual.

Abbreviations and Definitions

Acre: Acre, 160. sq. rods, 0.4047 hectares; 4840 sq. yds.;
 4046.849 sq. meters. (not A.)

aff.: Affinity to.

An ----? : Perhaps, as An Bromus inermis? An sp. nov.?

Appro. or approx.: approximately.

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C & R-PREP.

Atm: atmosphere, 14.7 lbs. per square inch at sea level.

Auct.: Auctor or auctores - author or authors, sometimes auth.

Av.: average

basionym: basionymum - basionym, the name or epithet upon which a later combination is based. Incorrectly spelled basinyum or basonym, acc. to Internat. Code.

cc or c.c.: cubic centimeter.

ca.: circa - about.

cf.: confer - compare or see.

chain: 4 rods, 66 ft., 20.116 meters.

comb. nov.: combinatio novo - new combination.

cm or cm.: centimeter, 0.3937 in.

cum: with

cv.: cultivar (not c.v.); or use single quotes without cv.

cwt: 100 lbs.

D B H: diameter breast high.

descr.: descriptio - description.

diam.: diameter

div.: divisio - division

dm or dm.: decimeter

Ed. or ed.: Editor, edition.

e.g.: exempli gratia - for example, for instance.

emend.: emendatus, -a, -um - emended or corrected, emendation.

err.: errore, per errorem - by error or mistake.

et al.: et alii - and others; et alibi - and elsewhere.

et seq.: et sequente - and the following.

ex char.: from the description, not the specimen.

ex.: example.

ex: name cited as coined by one author in another author's paper.

f.: forma - form.

fam.: familia - family

fam. nov.: familia nova - new family

fc: field capacity.

fem.: female

fig.: figura, figure; figs. - figures.

fl.: flos, flores - flower, flowers.

fol.: folium, folia - leaf, leaves

forma nov.: forma nova - new form

fr.: fructus - fruit

ft.: foot, .0348 m.

gen.: genus, sing.; genera, pl.

gen. nov.: genus novum, new genus.

grad. nov.; gradus novus, new grade or change in category.

hab.: habitat.

ha.: hectare, 2.471 acres, 1×10^4 sq. meters, 1.0764×10^5 sq. ft.

hoc loco: in this place or publication.

holotype: holotypus - specimen on which the original description of a plant or animal is based.

homonym: homonymum, a name duplicating a name.

hort.: hortorum - horticulture, of gardens.

hort. var.: horticultural variety, indicated also by single quotes.

ibid.: same (as to author or literature cited).

icon, iconis, sing.; or icon., icones, pl. - figure, illustration, or illustrations.

i.é.: id est - that is.

in: description furnished by one author for publication by another.

ined.: ineditus, -a, -um - a name not yet published (acc. to the Internat. Rules).

in.: inch, 2.5⁴ cm.; inches.

in lit. or in litt.: in literis - an unpublished name in a letter or manuscript.

isotype: isotypus - a duplicate of the holotype collection.

IWP: incipient wilting point.

km or km.: kilometer.

IAD: leaf area duration.

IAI: leaf area index.

l.c. or loc. cit.: loco citato - in the place cited (refers to a name published on the same page as in the preceding publication by the same author).

lectotype: a specimen selected from material seen by the author of the original description.

legit: collected by.

line: 1/12 inch (used in Britton & Brown).

link: 1/100 chain, 7.92 in., 0.201 meters.

m.: meter, 1.0936 yds.

~~m~~/_μ: millimicron.

masc.: masculine.

maund: 82 2/7 lbs.

mi.: mile, 5280 ft., 1760 yds., 1.6093 km., 1609.3 meters.

ml or mL.: milliliter - 1/1000th of a liter (misapplied as c.c. in liquid volume).

mm or mm.: millimeter.

morgen: 2.1 acres (old Dutch measure).

msc., ms.; mss., plural: manu scriptus - manuscript, indicates an unpublished name.

m.s.m.: meters supra mare-meters above sea level.

mu or μ : micron, singular; micra, pl..

mut.: mutatio - mutation.

NAR: net assimilation rate.

Nat. Ord.: Ordo naturalis - natural order

N.B.: Nota bene - note well.

no., nos.: numero - number, numbers.

neotype: neotypus - specimen selected as a standard in lieu of a type.

nm.: nothomorph - a hybrid supposed to be of the same hybrid origin as another hybrid, as Fragaria X ananassa nm. cuneifolia.

nom.: nomen, sing.; nomina, pl.

nom. altern.: nomen alternativum - an alternate name.

nom. ambig.: nomen ambiguum - a name which has become of uncertain meaning due to its application by different authors for two or more taxa.

nom. conf.: nomen confusum.

nom. conserv.: nomen conservandum - a name to be conserved though not valid according to the strict application of the Rules.

nom. dub.: nomen dubium - a name of doubtful application.

nom. illeg.: nomen illegitimum, a name not in agreement with the rules.

nom. nov.: nomen novum - a new name.

nom. nud.: nomen nudum or nomina nuda - naked name, a name without a description.

nom. rej.: nomen rejectum.

nom. rejic.: nomina rejicienda - synonyms or earlier homonyms, as opposed to nomina conservanda.

nom. subnud.: nomen subnudum - a name not fulfilling the conditions for valid publication.

op. cit. (o.c., or in op. cit.): opus citatum, in opere citato - referring to a preceding citation of the same work with the name in question as a different page or in a different part of the same work.

Ord.: ordo - order

p.: pagina, sing.; pp.: paginae, pl. - page, pages.

partim: partly.

pl.: planche, plate

pl.: plural

p.p.: pro parte - in part.

ppm.: parts per million.

pro syn.: as a synonym.

ppsi: pounds per square inch.

PWP: permanent wilting point.

quintal: 220.46 lbs.

q.v.: quod vide - which see.

RGR: relative growth rate.

rod: 25 links, 198 in., 5.025 meters.

s.a.: sensu ampliore - in the fullest or widest sense.

sched., in sched.: scheda, schedae, in scheda - label or labels, herbarium labels.

sect.: sectio - a section, or subdivision of a genus, ranking below subgenus.

sensu: in the sense of, as one author misapplying another author's use of a name.

sing.: singular.

s.l.: sensu lato - in the broad sense. (sens. lat.)

sp.: species, (Species is spelled same in singular and plural).

sphalm.: sphalmate - by slip of the pen (a mis-spelling of a word or number, not the misquoting of a page or date).

sp. nov.: species nova - new species.

spp.: species plures - more than one species.

s.p. or sp.gr.: specific gravity.

s.s.: sensu stricto - in the restricted or strict sense. (sens. str.)

ssp.: subspecies

stat. nov.: status novus - a new status.

subsp.: subspecies (preferable)

syn.: synonymum - synonym.

t.: tabula - plate.

tab.: tabula - plate.

taxon, sing.; taxa, pl.: a taxonomic unit.

tf.: text figure.

tom.: tomus - volume (as of a book)

ton, long: 2240 lbs.

ton, metric: 2204.62 lbs. or 1000 kg.

ton, short: 2000 lbs.

var.: varietas - variety

var. nov.: varietas nova - new variety.

vel. aff.: affinity to, related to; or aff. only.

viz.: namely

vol.: volume (as of a book)

vs.: versus

X: sign of a sexual hybrid.

yd.: yard, 0.9144 m. yard.

GEOGRAPHICAL DIRECTIONS

Austr.: australis, -e - southern or south. (S)

Bor.: borealis, -e - northern or north. (N)

Cent.: centralis, -e - central.

Geront.: gerontogeous - Old World.

Ins.: insula - island (Isl.).

Merid.: meridionalis, -e - mid or middle area of

Occ. or Occid.: occidentalis, -e - western or west. (W)

Or. or Orient.: orientalis, -e - eastern or east. (E)

Reg.: regione - in region of, in direction of.

Septent.: Septentrionalis, -e - northern

Trop.: tropicalis, -e - tropical.

SYMBOLS

⊙ or ① annual

⊙ or ② biennial

∞ - infinite, indefinite number (as stamens in Rosaceae)

℥ - perennial

♀ - female, fem.

♂ - male, masc.

⊕ - neuter

♀ or ♂ hermaphroditic

℥ - small shrub

℥ - shrub

℥ - small tree

℥ - tree

- \pm - plus or minus, more or less
 $=$ - equal to
 $<$ - less than
 $>$ - more than
N - haploid generation
2N - diploid generation

Additions, criticisms and amendments should be sent to:

Dr. Clyde F. Reed, Botanist
New Crops Research Branch
Plant Industry Station
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

